

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1210

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 3923

FOR EUR/SOV FROM LOEBNER

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3

TAGS: TGEN, UR, US, PFOR

SUBJECT: NSC CRITICAL ASSESSMENT OF SPECIALIZED BILATERALS

REF: STATE 57028, MOSCOW 1832

1. EMBASSY APPRECIATES OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT ON SECOND DRAFT OF COVERING MEMO FOR NSC CRITICAL ASSESSMENT. FULL REPORT ARRIVED TODAY AND HAS NOT YET BEEN REVIEWED. WE APPRECIATE CONSIDERATION GIVEN SUGGESTIONS MADE IN REF B AND CONSIDER SUMMARY REPORT EXCELLENT IN ALL RESPECTS. WE HAVE SLIGHT RESERVATIONS ONLY ON TWO FOLLOWING POINTS.

2. LAST SENTENCE IN PARA 24 (D) MIGHT BENEFIT FROM SLIGHT AMENDMENT. WE BELIEVE THAT SOVIET DELAY IN AGREEING TO MANNED SPACE COOPERATION IS MORE LIKELY RELATED TO SOVIET CAUTION IN ENTERING INTO LONG-RANGE COMMITMENTS THAN TO A RECONSIDERATION OF PRIORITIES.

3. WITH RESPECT TO PARA 24(I), EMBASSY VIEWS POTENTIAL FOR EXCHANGE ON INFORMATION MORE OPTIMISTICALLY THAN EXPRESSED IN DRAFT ON ENERGY AGREEMENT. CONSEQUENTLY IN OUR VIEW, BECAUSE OF MHD, BALANCE MAY BE SOMEWHAT IN US FAVOR RATHER THAN EQUAL AT THIS TIME. CERTAINLY SOVIETS SAY THEY CONSIDER IT STRONGLY BALANCED IN OUR FAVOR. STOESSEL

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